To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally request the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to **repeal outdated regulations that prohibit radio repeaters from being linked via the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN)**. These rules were originally created to prevent individuals from bypassing long-distance telephone charges under the Bell System monopoly. However, with the breakup of Bell and the widespread availability of free long-distance calling, these regulations are now **obsolete and unnecessary**.

Additionally, the FCC recently **extended this prohibition to internet-based linking for GMRS repeaters**, further restricting users from utilizing modern technology for network coverage and emergency communication. This decision was made **without Congressional approval, without public comment, and without technical justification**. Preventing repeater linking over the internet **hinders emergency preparedness, disaster relief efforts, and general communication advancements** in the GMRS and amateur radio communities. The FCC should **immediately repeal these unnecessary restrictions** and allow licensed users to link their repeaters freely.

Request for Experimental GMRS DMR Channels

As technology advances, GMRS users should have access to modern digital voice communication systems. I urge the FCC to allocate new channels for e**xperimental DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) use within GMRS**. Assigning a small portion of GMRS spectrum for experimental digital use would foster innovation and allow operators to test new communication methods without interfering with existing analog operations.

Request for a Novice No-Test Ham License

I also request the FCC to introduce a **Novice No-Test Ham License**. Many individuals are interested in amateur radio but are discouraged by the testing process. A **no-test introductory license** would encourage new participants, increase interest in radio communications, and serve as a stepping stone toward more advanced licensing.

Privacy Concerns and Testing Security Issues

Many potential licensees are afraid to obtain an GMRS or Amateur radio license due to **the lack of privacy in the FCC database**. Currently, all licensee addresses are publicly listed, and the FCC does not allow redaction. To address this concern, I urge the FCC to **allow operators to redact their personal addresses** or provide a public-facing alternative to protect their privacy.

Additionally, the **current amateur radio testing process raises security risks**. Volunteer Examiners (VEs) often require photo ID verification, and some even **take photos of applicants' IDs**, creating privacy concerns and potential identity theft risks. To resolve this issue, I propose that **the FCC take over amateur radio testing directly through its website**, ensuring a standardized, secure, and accessible process. Many government agencies already offer online testing, and amateur radio licensing should follow this modernized approach.

Requested Actions

I respectfully request the FCC to:

1. **Eliminate outdated restrictions on repeater linking via PSTN**, as they serve no purpose in today's telecommunications environment.
2. **Reverse the recent prohibition on GMRS internet linking**, as it lacks justification and was implemented without public input.
3. **Allocate new channels for experimental DMR use within GMRS**, encouraging digital communication advancements.
4. **Introduce a Novice No-Test Ham License**, making amateur radio more accessible to new users.
5. **Allow GMRS Amateur radio operators to redact their personal addresses from the FCC database**, improving privacy and security.
6. **Require the FCC to handle amateur radio testing directly through its website**, eliminating the need for third-party testing groups that collect and store personal information.

I appreciate the FCC's time and consideration of these requests and look forward to its response.

Sincerely,
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